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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 2, 2026
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HONORABLE DEVON LEE LOMAYESVA AND ANNA HOHAG HONORED FOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN INDIAN LAW

BAKERSFIELD, CA - The California Indian Law Association, Inc. (CILA) is proud to announce that Honorable Devon Lee Lomayesva is the 2026 recipient of CILA's Outstanding Achievement in California Indian Law Award and Anna Hohag is the recipient of the 2026 Outstanding Young Attorney Award.

CILA's Outstanding Achievement in California Indian Law Award honors one legal professional annually who has made significant contributions to California Indian law. Previous recipients of this award include *Judge Abby Abinanti*, Chief Judge of the Yurok Tribe; *Dorothy Alther*, Legal Director of California Indian Legal Services; *Carole Goldberg*, Distinguished Research Professor and Jonathan D. Varat Distinguished Professor of Law Emerita at UCLA School of Law; *Judge Claudette White*, prior Chief Judge for the Quechan Tribal Court and San Manuel Tribal Court; *Michael Pfeffer,* Partner at Maier, Pfeffer, Kim, Geary & Cohen; *Dawn Sturdevant Baum*, prior General Counsel for the Yurok Tribe; *Denise Turner Walsh*, Attorney General of the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians; and *James C. Ramos,* California Assemblymember.

CILA is pleased to present this award to Honorable Devon Lee Lomayesva, an enrolled member of the Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, for her important work supporting California Tribal communities, including as the Chief Judge for the Intertribal Court of Southern California and her current role as Judge of the San Diego Superior Court where she strives to utilize her expertise and experience to further promote awareness and understanding of California Tribal governments and Tribal people, while emphasizing the importance of Indian law and its relevance to the California justice system. "*Judge Lomayesva's career reflects extraordinary commitment to Tribal sovereignty and service to California Tribal communities. For decades, she has strengthened California Indian Country through her unwavering dedication to the legal field while also remaining deeply committed to Native youth, Iipay culture and language. Her resume and accolades speak volumes, but above all, she is a role model for California Native youth and those forging their paths in Indian law. CILA is honored to recognize her remarkable contributions to California Indian Country*," said Loretta Miranda, CILA Treasurer. CILA's Outstanding Achievement Award celebrates Honorable Lomayesva's legacy and her significant contributions to California Indian law.

CILA's Outstanding Young Attorney Award recognizes attorneys in practice for ten years or less who exemplify high achievement, innovation, leadership, and service within the field of Indian law. Previous recipients of the Outstanding Young Attorney Award include *Lenny Powell*, attorney at the Native American Rights Fund; *Christina Snider-Ashtari*, Tribal Affairs Secretary for Governor Gavin Newsom; *Fatima Abbas*, Director of the Office of Tribal and Native Affairs at the U.S. Department of the Treasury; *Lauren van Schilfgaarde*, Assistant Professor of Law at UCLA School of Law; *Geneva E. B. Thompson*, Assistant Secretary for Tribal Affairs at the California Natural Resources Agency; *Janet Bill*, former Chairperson of the Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians and current tribal court judge; *Gabriela Magee*, an attorney at Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP and active leader at her own tribe, the Cahuilla Band of Indians; and *Erica Costa*, a senior attorney at Berkey Williams LLP.

In her career, Anna Hohag (Bishop Paiute Tribe) has made a substantial impact in advancing the interests of Tribal communities in California, particularly through her work protecting Tribal sovereignty, strengthening Tribal governments, and advocating for Native rights. "*Anna brings intelligence, empathy, patience, and sound judgment to her work. She is a natural leader who listens carefully, approaches complex issues thoughtfully, and has an ability to bring people together while moving important work forward. Her varied experience spanning legal services, private practice, and direct service to Tribal governments has only strengthened those qualities. Anna approaches her work with a deep respect for Tribal governance, culture, and sovereignty, and is generous with her time in supporting the next generation of attorneys. She represents the kind of thoughtful, grounded leadership that strengthens the Indian law profession and reflects a deep commitment to the Tribal communities she serves*," said Krista Saenz, CILA President.

Honorable Devon Lee Lomayesva and Anna Hohag will be celebrated during the CILA Awards Dinner on **Thursday, October 8, 2026 at 6:00 PM,** during the 26th Annual California Indian Law Conference, which is being held October 8-9, 2026 at Agua Caliente Rancho Mirage. All are welcome. Registration is available at bit.ly/CILA26.

Honorable Devon Lee Lomayesva

Devon Lomayesva is a Tribal Member of the Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel. She was appointed by Gov. Gavin Newsom to the Superior Court of California, San Diego County, on October 7, 2024, as the first enrolled California Indian to be appointed to a California Superior Court. She is currently assigned to Juvenile Dependency. Devon has previously served as Chief Judge of the Intertribal Court of Southern California, owner of Lomayesva Law Corporation, P.C., primarily representing the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians in Tribal and Federal Indian law matters, Executive Director of California Indian Legal Services, Tribal Attorney for the Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, Lecturer at San Diego State University, Cofounder of the American Indian Recruitment Programs, and the Iipay Nation Tribal Council. She currently participates in a number of committees and organizations, including, California Women Judges, California Judges Association, Lawyers Club of San Diego, Tribal Court-State Court Forum, California Indian Law Association, Native American Lawyers Association of San Diego, and Santa Ysabel Traditional Gathering Committee.

Anna Hohag

Anna Hohag (Nüümü) is a proud citizen of the Bishop Paiute Tribe and a descendant of the Mono Lake Kootzaduka'a. She was born and raised in her tribal community in Payahüünadü, meaning the "place of flowing water" (now commonly known as the "Owens Valley" region in the Eastern Sierras). Anna has devoted her legal career to advancing the rights and sovereignty of California Native communities. She currently serves as a Staff Attorney for the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation where she works to advance education, cultural resources protection, water rights, and to advocate for Tribal sovereignty through the strengthening and development of Tribal law. She also serves on the Tribal Environmental Protection Agency for her tribe. Anna is a 2017 graduate of the James E. Rogers College of Law at the University of Arizona where she received a juris doctorate and certificates in both Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy and Water Policy. Outside of lawyering, Anna is most proud and humbled in her role as "bia" (mom).

About CILA: The California Indian Law Association, Inc. ("CILA") is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization dedicated to serving as a strong representative of the Indian law profession in Tribal communities across California. **The 26th Annual California Indian Law Conference will be held in person October 8-9, 2026 at Agua Caliente Rancho Mirage.** Pre-conference programming will also take place on October 7, 2026. For more details, visit the CILA website: www.calindianlaw.org.

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